

## **Advent Lutheran Church: Open Letter to Church Council**

To: Tim Heine and others  
Advent Lutheran Church, 5820 Pinemont Drive, Houston, TX 77092, 713-686-8201

Fm: Charlie Dean

Date: 01/10/2011

On 1/10/2011 at 10:18 AM you (Tim) called me and stated that you could not run my ad in *The Adventure*. You said the entire council had discussed it and agreed that this was so. I asked you send me the names of the people who made the decision; you refused. I then asked you to put me on the next agenda and to see that the congregation knew of it and to invite them all to the next council meeting; you refused. You said that the council had not approved of a "committee" and I said I had nothing to do with a committee. You said "we call it a committee, you call it a group."

1. Explain why you refuse to run my ad which appears below in *The Adventure*.

The IT&R Group

Charlie Dean has built a website for the Advent's Information Technology & Research Group ("IT&R Group"). This site is devoted to those who are interested in developing a digital library/museum of Advent and doing online research and planning. The website is a work space for (1) collecting material, (2) experimenting with it, (3) running the results by other church members to get their opinions, (4) collaborating with one another on various way of making material presentable. If interested, call Charlie at 713-956-5968 or email [charlie.dean81@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.dean81@gmail.com)

2. Explain what you intend to do about digital information on the church computer(s). Explain how you intend to preserve the information, organize it, and make it available to the congregation. Explain why this has been withheld from the congregation.

3. Explain in detail whatever it is that you do not like about my website <https://sites.google.com/site/itrgroupadvent/> Explain why you, and others on the council, think you should control my website in any way.

4. You have acted as though you, and a few of your friends, have some sort of church authority to be essentially gatekeepers of ideas and expressions. If this is not so, explain it. If it is so, explain it.

It appears that I cannot count on you to put me on the next agenda, and that you are hiding this matter from the rest of the church. I will email this to church members, I will post it on the Internet, and I will pass it out to some members. I regret that this on-going problem cannot be handled in a better way.

*C. J. Dean*